

Marshall S. Sayner American Legion Post 341

Membership Meeting, April 7, 2011

OPENING CEREMONIES:

At 18:35 hours Commander Jake Greeling called the members to order. Opening Ceremonies were conducted with the Salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. Opening prayer was given by Acting Chaplin, Ray Brust. The POW/MIA Flag Ceremony was conducted by 2nd Vice Commander Shelaine Coleman.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS:

Commander - Jake Greeling, Present - 1st Vice Commander - Lewis Kaslow, Present - 2nd Vice Commander - Shelaine Coleman, Present, - Adjutant - Dan LaPointe, Present, - Finance Officer - John Chelstrom, Absent - Judge Advocate - Gene Rogers, Present - Service Officer - Nat Holmes, Absent – Acting Chaplin – Ray Brust, Present – Sgt-At-Arms – Bill Pranke, Present. Past Commander - Norvil Lantz, Present.

MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING:

The minutes from our March meeting are posted on the bulletin board and have been posted on the website for some time. A motion to accept the minutes as read was approved.

Special Guests:

Col. Bill Duncan & Peter Heronimous

Guest Speakers:

Col. Duncan spoke for Veterans against Jihadism. He gave out handouts which included a map of the Europe and the affected area and a handout expressing the organizations concerns about the increasing rise in Jihadism in the world. Don Doughty who was with Col. Duncan handed out a handout that was entitled “What Women need to know about Shariah Law” and spoke briefly on how badly women are treated under Jihadism. Col. Duncan also had books available to purchase that was titled “Stop Subversive Islamic Activity – A Practical Guide”

Peter Heronimous spoke to the members about the upcoming National Veterans Creative Arts Festival that will be held at the Walton Arts Center on October 23rd 2011. This festival will have many wonderful Veterans that will be performing acts and different groups that will be performing in many different programs. VA hospitals from all over the country will be sponsoring performers who will be competing for metals and awards.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Fundraising Committee Report: Fund Raising Chairman Doug Grant reported that the money from people who have signed up for the Legion Annual Golf Tournament has started to come in. He reported

that the golf tournament committee will be meeting on Saturday April 9th after the breakfast and said that anyone who would have input is invited to attend. Doug also mentioned that he has started to collect items for the Silent Auction that will be planned for later in the year.

Finance Report: John Chelstrom, the Post Finance Officer, gave the Monthly Finance Report. It was also noted that it is posted on the Bulletin Board. He reported that the Post has a total of \$67,921 on hand at this time.

Membership Report: Lewis Kaslow, the Post First vice Commander reported that the post has reached the membership goal and now have 561 members who have paid 2011 dues.

Service Officers Report: Post Service Officer, Nat Holmes was absent so no report was given. Commander Greeling reported that Nat had provided him with some very important links that have been added to the Post 341 website under the heading of **Veterans Information Page** that may assist Veterans in receiving some of their benefits.

Boys and Girls State: John Chelstrom reported that they will be sending 2 Boys to Boys State this year. One of the Boys is from Bentonville HS and one is from the Christian Academy, Ambassadors for Christ. Boys State will be held at the University of Central Arkansas at Conway, AR and Girls State will be held at Harding University in Searcy, AR. The dates for both are from May 29th thru June 3rd, 2011. John reported that the Legion Auxiliary is sending 3 girls to Girls State.

S.A.L. (Sons of Legion) – There was no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Monthly Breakfast: Shelaine reported that the next breakfast will be on April 9th, 2011. Anyone who can help - please be at the post at 7:00 AM. She also reported that the breakfast in March has served a record number of people .

Commander Greeling reported that the reception for the National Commander, Jimmy Foster, was held at our Post on April 6th, 2011. Jake and his wife Karen had planned a reception in Jimmy's honor at the post and there were 48 members and guests present. He reported that the reception was a good time and he thanked all of the members who helped out by serving of the meal. The State Department Commander made comment that our Post put on the best reception of any of the stops on the tour. He said that they had saved the best for last.

New Business:

The nominating committee has suggested the following members to be the Post 341 Officers for 2012. Jake Greeling, Commander. Shelaine Coleman, 1st Vice Commander. Doug Grant, 2nd Vice Commander. Dan LaPointe, Adjutant. Gene Rogers, Judge Advocate. Ray Brust Chaplin. Chris Cole, Service Officer. John Chelstrom, Finance Officer. Andy Anderson, Sergeant at Arms.

Commander Greeling asked for any other nominations from the floor. None were given. Nominations can be made up until next meeting and the members will vote on the new officers at the May Meeting.

Fund Raiser for CASA. Leonard Eisert, who was a foster child when growing up, would like to organize and promote a Big Band fundraiser with the proceeds going to the NW Arkansas CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program. Diane Bynum from the CASA office in Springdale, AR. told the members present about the program and the requirements and training that is necessary to become an Advocate for a Foster Child. More information about the Fundraiser will be given to the members when it becomes available concerning the location, the date and the time of the event. Legion Post 341 will be one of the Sponsors of the event.

MOMENT FOR DEPARTED MEMBER:

Commander Greeling reported that in the last month 2 post members had passed away.

Robert Eugene Campbell 83, a US Navy Veteran who served in WWII.

William J. McClurkin 88, who was also a WWII Veteran branch of Service unknown.

Acting Chaplin Ray Brust delivered a memorial prayer for the departed soldiers.

CLOSING CEREMONIES:

Commander Greeling conducted appropriate Closing Ceremonies. The meeting was adjourned at 1943 hours. There were 43 members present.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan LaPointe, Adjutant